



# THE SOUTH TEXAS REGIONAL COCORAHS NEWSLETTER

NWS  
Corpus  
Christi



Summer 2015  
Edition

## Record Spring Rainfall

The spring of 2015 can be summed up in one word: soggy. Thanks to a constant flow of tropical moisture and atmospheric disturbances due to El Niño, most areas of south Texas and the Coastal Bend broke records for rainfall.

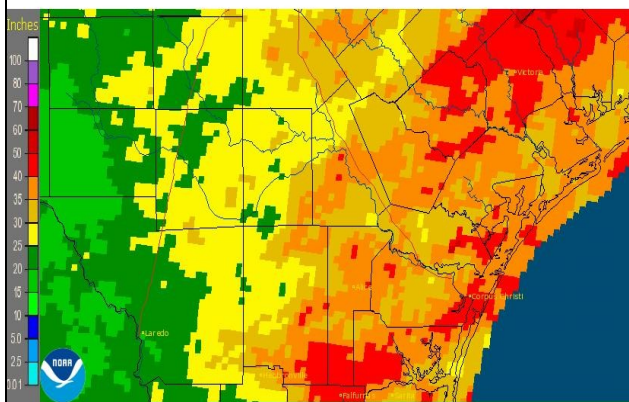
Thanks to numerous heavy rain events, May was by far the wettest month in recent memory. Laredo, Corpus Christi and Victoria recorded their wettest May in history. Plus several areas had the wettest first half of the year (January 1st through June 30th) ever including Corpus Christi with 31.89" and Alice with 34.48".

The most active months of the first half of the year were April and May, with two severe weather episodes in April and several flood events in May.

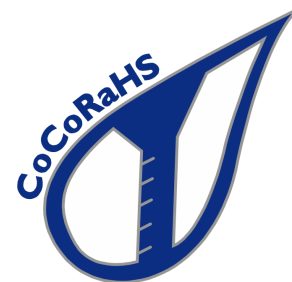
The first flood event was on May 11th- 12th as a slow moving cold front across south Texas combined with a very moist, un-

stable airmass and an upper level disturbance. The result was 4 to 6 inches of rain across many areas of San Patricio, Nueces, Kleberg and Jim Wells Counties. Southeastern Webb County received 8 to 10 inches. Many roads were flooded across the region. Winds of up to 80 mph were also reported in some storms. CONTINUED PAGE 2-->

Corpus Christi, TX (CRP): Current Year to Date Observed Precipitation  
Valid at 7/6/2015 1200 UTC- Created 7/7/15 0:28 UTC



**Total rainfall from January 1st through July 6.**  
**Many areas east of US Hwy 281 have received over 30 inches for the first half of the year.**



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## El Niño may bring very wet winter

The record spring rains have dried up with summer in full swing. This dry streak may be short lived as El Niño may bring a very wet fall and winter, so make sure we take time to clean the dust out of the rain gauges and have them ready.

As of late July, the current El Niño is categorized as "strong", with many outlooks calling for this strong El Niño to get even stronger and persist through all of the upcoming fall and winter. This current El Niño episode has shown many similarities to the one that developed and strengthened in the summer and fall of 1997. Rainfall during that fall (October through December) of 1997 was well above normal across south Texas and the coastal bend. Corpus

Christi received 14.11 inches during those three months, Victoria 16.64", Alice 11.92" and Laredo 7.27".

In what exact month the rain starts remains to be seen. September is currently leaning "dry" though a wild card in the forecast could be the tropics, PAGE 2——>

### Rainfall during "strong" El Niño years (Oct-Dec)

City	Normal	Fall 1982	Fall 1997
Corpus Christi	5.90"	6.73"	14.11"
Victoria	9.15"	13.50"	16.64"
Laredo	3.90"	5.16"	7.27"
Alice	4.75"	6.98"	11.92"
Cotulla	4.61"	5.85"	5.20"





EL NIÑO—FROM PAGE 1....as a spin-up from the southwestern Gulf of Mexico would send ample moisture and rain into the coastal bend. October is a possibility to transition to the wet pattern as fall fronts begin interacting with Gulf moisture and left over summer heat. This is what happened in October of 1997...a front mixed with ample moisture from the tropical Pacific and upper level energy caused widespread heavy rains in deep south Texas from the 2nd and 12th.

Current monthly outlooks from the CPC indicate this scenario is possible. The CPC shows an equal chance for above, below and normal precipitation from August through September, but then from October to December, all of South Texas has a 40% chance of above normal precipitation and a 33% chance of below normal temperatures. By January 2016, the chance increases to 50% for wetter than normal weather.



THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK  
PRECIPITATION PROBABILITY  
0.5 MONTH LEAD  
VALID ASD 2015  
MADE 16 JUL 2015

EC MEANS EQUAL  
CHANCES FOR A, N, B  
A MEANS ABOVE  
N MEANS NORMAL  
B MEANS BELOW

**August through October:** south Texas has equal chance of above, below or normal rainfall. Chances of wetter than normal weather stay out west and in the Midwest. As the fall goes on, the wetter than normal areas shifts to the south and east.



THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK  
PRECIPITATION PROBABILITY  
2.5 MONTH LEAD  
VALID QND 2015  
MADE 16 JUL 2015

EC MEANS EQUAL  
CHANCES FOR A, N, B  
A MEANS ABOVE  
N MEANS NORMAL  
B MEANS BELOW

**October through December:** the area of wetter than normal precipitation shifts southward into Texas. All of Texas, except the northeastern section, has at least a 40% of receiving above normal precipitation.



THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK  
PRECIPITATION PROBABILITY  
5.5 MONTH LEAD  
VALID JFM 2016  
MADE 16 JUL 2015

EC MEANS EQUAL  
CHANCES FOR A, N, B  
A MEANS ABOVE  
N MEANS NORMAL  
B MEANS BELOW

**January through March 2016:** south Texas and all of the Gulf Coast has at least a 50% chance of receiving wetter than normal precipitation.

SPRING RAINFALL FROM PAGE 1—> Another flood event hit the region on May 13th. A slow moving front combined with abundant moisture and an upper level disturbance resulted in another 3 to 4 inches on parts of Nueces County and 4 to 5 inches near Orange Grove and Agua Dulce.. This rain, combined with the previous days rain equated to a total of nearly 10 inches of rain in two days for parts of the Coastal Bend and Duval County.

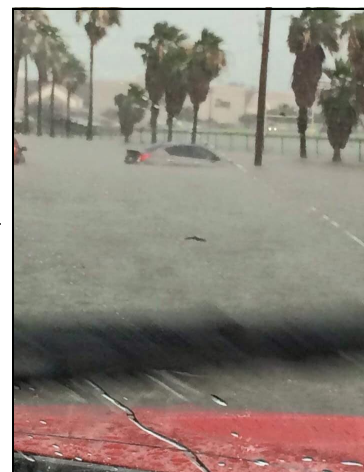
Yet another flood event occurred on May 15 as a storm system dumped an additional 2 to 3 inches across portions of LaSalle, McMullen, Live Oak and Bee counties, causing major flooding in George West and Beeville. Three tornadoes were also reported during this flood event.

At the end of May on the 30th, still another flood event, this time in Laredo as storms dumped nearly 4 inches of rain in a little over two hours time. The result was major flash flooding across the northern half of Laredo. Many streets were underwater as well as the parking areas of major shopping centers, including Mall Del Norte and Northcreek Center. Numerous homes in the Del Mar area had flood waters inside their homes. South Laredo however had very little rainfall.

The rain has now dried up and disappeared, though outlooks show a very wet fall and winter ahead and therefore, more flood events may be possible.



**Above:** Almost 4 inches of rain in two hours cause major flash flooding in North Laredo's Northcreek Shopping Center and adjacent Interstate 35 Access Road.



**Above Right:** Cars are submerged underwater at Mall Del Norte in Laredo on May 30th as a thunderstorm dumps nearly 4 inches of rain in two hours.



## Observer Recognition

The National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office Corpus Christi would like to thank all CoCoRaHS observers for their dedication to the program. Your data is very valuable to all the forecasters here as well as to other agencies, such as river authorities, emergency management offices, and agricultural services. Once again, a big THANK YOU to all observers and especially to those with five or more years of service. Years of service based on September 1st.

### **ARANSAS COUNTY**

Carole & Gordon Goosney TX-AR-3 7 years  
Robert Critchlow TX-AR 5 6 years  
Cherry Foster TX-AR-6 5 years

### **BEE COUNTY**

Austin Brown TX-BEE-10 6 years

### **CALHOUN COUNTY**

John Gretchen TX-CLH-1 7 years  
Tommy Hargrove TX-CLH-2 7 years  
Paul Greenwood TX-CLH-9 5 years

### **DUVAL COUNTY**

Juan Hinojosa TX-DV-1 6 years

### **GOLIAD COUNTY**

Linda McCormick TX-GD-3 8 years  
Kathy Toerck TX-GD-4 7 years  
Robert Head TX-GD-6 7 years  
David Andrews TX-GD-8 7 years  
Leon Dohmann TX-GD-12 7 years  
Roy Ward TX-GD-15 6 years  
Stan Fields TX-GD-16 6 years  
Goliad CGCD TX-GD-17 6 years  
Ruth Pieper TX-GD-19 6 years

### **JIM WELLS COUNTY**

Bill Gunn TX-JW-3 7 years

### **KLEBERG COUNTY**

Patricia Allen TX-KL-2 7 years

### **LA SALLE COUNTY**

Steven Mafrige TX-LS-3 6 years  
Joe Crisp TX-LS-4 6 years  
Elton Page TX-LS-5 5 years  
Peggy Hillje TX-LS-6 5 years

### **LIVE OAK COUNTY**

James Jungman TX-LO-2 7 years  
Choke Canyon Lake TX-LO-5 7 years  
Mark Katzfey TX-LO-9 6 years  
Lonnie Stewart TX-LO-11/12 6 years  
David Saenz TX-LO-13 5 years  
Robert Cleveland TX-LO-14 5 years

### **MC MULLEN COUNTY**

Isaac Cavazos TX-MCM-3 7 years  
Steven Mafrige TX-MCM-4 6 years

### **NUECES COUNTY**

Larry Street TX-NU-4 8 years  
William Pieri TX-NU-7 7 years  
James Ermis TX-NU-9 7 years  
James Sautter TX-NU-10 7 years  
Harvey Buehring TX-NU-12 7 years  
Joseph Carr TX-NU-13 7 years  
City of Corpus Christi TX-NU-15 7 years  
Mary Baccus TX-NU-17 7 years

Marty Wind TX-NU-38 5 years  
Kathryn Gulding TX-NU-40 5 years

### **REFUGIO COUNTY**

Dwight Mutschler TX-RF-2 7 years  
William Albert TX-RF-4 7 years

### **SAN PATRICIO COUNTY**

Ronald LeBoeuf TX-SP-8 6 years

### **WEBB COUNTY**

Jerry Lopez TX-WB-2/27 7 years  
Antonio Rodriguez TX-WB-4 7 years  
Jim Fulgham TX-WB-5/47 7 years  
Sheila Glassford TX-WB-6 7 years  
Manuel Juarez TX-WB-9 7 years  
B. A. Puig III TX-WB-12 7 years  
MGS Cattle TX-WB-22 6 years  
Connie Adams TX-WB-23 6 years

### **VICTORIA COUNTY**

Morris Maretick TX-VC-3 7 years  
David Tewes TX-VC-4 7 years  
Robert Wilson TX-VC-8 7 years  
Leland Davis TX-VC-9 7 years  
Bill Clough TX-VC-10 6 years  
Russell Drane TX-VC-17 5 years  
John Ellsworth TX-VC-19 5 years  
Gerald Graves TX-VC-20 5 years  
Tim Foerster TX-VC-21 5 years

## Reporting 100% of the time

Every drop has been counted at Aransas Pass 6.1 NNW (TX-AR-8).

Observer Linda B. Lanoue has never missed a report since joining CoCoRaHS in May of 2012. Through July 27th, that means 1,164 consecutive reports.

Lanoue, a retired accountant, spends most days volunteering at either the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge or at the Sea Turtle Lab at The Padre Island National Seashore. She first heard about CoCoRaHS as a Texas Master Naturalist.

She says CoCoRaHS is important because precipitation can vary so greatly, even in



**Linda Lanoue, TX-AR-8**

close areas. Lanoue feels that the more people that are reporting, then the better the chance is of seeing the real picture precipitation wise.





## Regional Rainfall Data: January 1st-June 30th

### NUECES COUNTY

COOP	NWS-Corpus Christi Airport	31.89"
TX-NU-4	Corpus Christi 8.0 WNW	31.53"
TX-NU-9	Corpus Christi 6.4 WSW	34.51"
TX-NU-10	Flour Bluff 1.6 SW	34.88"
TX-NU-12	Orange Grove 4.5 SE	31.39"
TX-NU-40	Corpus Christi 6.5 WSW	34.08"
TX-NU-61	Corpus Christi 6.9 SE	36.28"

### WEBB COUNTY

COOP	Laredo KGNS TV	20.57"
TX-WB-4	Las Tiendas Ranch	19.13"
TX-WB-6	Laredo 2.4 S	16.37"
TX-WB-12	Laredo 1.8 N	20.37"
TX-WB-22	Laredo 23.7 NE	18.93"
TX-WB-23	Freer 29.5 WSW	20.27"
TX-WB-27	Laredo 2.0 NNE	22.91"
TX-WB-44	Laredo 2.8 ENE	21.93"
TX-WB-47	Laredo 2.5 N	21.36"

### VICTORIA COUNTY

TX-VC-3	Victoria 11.9 SE	33.37"
TX-VC-4	Victoria 1.3 E	36.45"
TX-VC-8	Victoria 3.7 NNW	33.07"
TX-VC-9	Inez 5.3 SSW	41.18"
TX-VC-19	Bloomington 0.5 N	37.26"
TX-VC-27	Nursery 0.4 NNW	38.56"
TX-VC-35	Victoria 2.7 NNW	35.38"
TX-VC-41	Victoria 2.2 NW	34.66"

### KLEBERG COUNTY

TX-KL-2	Kingsville 6.5 SSE	26.45"
TX-KL-11	Kingsville 0.6 E	20.98"

### SAN PATRICIO COUNTY

TX-SP-8	Mathis 2.6 NW	24.02"
TX-SP-18	Portland 1.3 NW	28.80"

### LA SALLE COUNTY

TX-LS-3	Dilley 17.9 ESE	24.03"
TX-LS-4	Artesia Wells 1.1 W	18.23"
TX-LS-5	Cotulla 1.6 NE	19.55"
TX-LS-6	Artesia Wells 14.0 SE	22.58"
TX-LS-9	Cotulla 9.7 SE	20.63"

### DUVAL COUNTY

TX-DV-1	Hebbronville 13.6 E	31.40"
TX-DV-7	San Diego 0.7 SW	19.85"

### MC MULLEN COUNTY

TX-MCM-3	Tilden 0.1 E	24.39"
TX-MCM-4	Tilden 16.0 NNW	23.60"
TX-MCM-5	Cross 1.7 NNW	23.69"

### BEE COUNTY

TX-BEE-10	Beeville 4.5 NW	34.59"
TX-BEE-17	Normanna 0.5 ENE	31.33"

TX-BEE-18	Beeville 9.0 S	30.93"
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### ARANSAS COUNTY

TX-AR-3	Rockport 2.1 NNW	38.08"
TX-AR-5	Rockport 0.6 N	39.47"
TX-AR-6	Rockport 3.0 NNW	37.86"
TX-AR-7	Rockport 1.3 WSW	36.36"
TX-AR-8	Aransas Pass 1.6 NNW	38.16"

### JIM WELLS COUNTY

TX-JW-3	Orange Grove 8.1 WNW	25.83"
TX-JW-5	Orange Grove 4.3 SW	29.73"
TX-JW-6	Orange Grove 3.3 NW	30.25"

### GOLIAD COUNTY

TX-GD-3	Goliad 2.4 SE	35.80"
TX-GD-4	Goliad 14.5 WNW	38.75"
TX-GD-6	Goliad 0.4 NW	34.26"
TX-GD-8	Goliad 4.1 NW	35.13"
TX-GD-12	Goliad 11.5 N	40.88"
TX-GD-15	Weser 1.9 NW	38.43"
TX-GD-17	Goliad 0.1 S	35.40"
TX-GD-25	Goliad 14.3 NNE	37.01"

### LIVE OAK COUNTY

TX-LO-2	George West 0.1 WSW	30.07"
TX-LO-5	Choke Canyon Dam North	22.21"
TX-LO-9	George West 2.7 NNW	28.85"
TX-LO-11	George West 2.9 E	32.30"
TX-LO-12	George West 8.0 NE	33.70"
TX-LO-14	Sandia 5.1 NNW	25.03"

### CALHOUN COUNTY

TX-CLH-1	Seadrift 5.1 E	30.65"
TX-CLH-2	Port Lavaca 0.9 NW	32.59"
TX-CLH-9	Seadrift 0.6 E	31.38"
TX-CLH-15	Seadrift 4.9 ENE	31.12"

### REFUGIO COUNTY

TX-RF-2	Austwell 0.3 ESE	32.16"
TX-RF-3	Woodsboro 3.6 S	29.72"
TX-RF-8	Refugio 1.0 NNW	29.97"





## North Carolina wins the “CoCoRaHS Cup”

North Carolina wins this year's CoCoRaHS Cup. Every March, CoCoRaHS holds its annual recruitment drive to see which state can recruit the most new observers.

This year's competition was a run away at the top, with

North Carolina placing first with 151 new observers, followed by South Carolina in a distant second place with 57 and Texas with 56. North Carolina was also the top placer in 2014's March Madness. These results were in the “traditional” division.

As is the case each year, CoCoRaHS March Madness has two divisions: the “Traditional”

and the Per Capita.” In the “Per Capita” division, the state that recruits the most new observers per one million of its total state population wins. The idea is to give the less populated states a chance at winning the CoCoRaHS cup. This year's “Per Capita” division winner was North Dakota, followed by North Carolina and New Mexico.

Overall, there were a total of 782 new volunteers nationwide. And even though March Madness is over, CoCoRaHS accepts new observers anytime of the year.

Just go to our homepage at [www.cocorahs.org](http://www.cocorahs.org) and click on “join” to register.



## CoCoRaHS en Español

¿Quieres ser parte de la red CoCoRaHS pero no habla inglés? No hay problema. La oficina del Servicio Nacional de Meteorológico en El Paso tiene un video en español Ya esta disponible en la internet en <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gMW6Sg-1EXY>.

El video tiene información sobre la historia de CoCoRaHS, la importancia de la program y cómo reportar lluvia, granizo y nieve. Sea parte de CoCoRaHS...porque cada gota cuenta!



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### National Weather Service Mission Statement:

The National Weather Service (NWS) provides weather, hydrologic, and climate forecasts and warnings for the United States, its territories, adjacent waters and ocean areas, for the protection of life and property and the enhancement of the national economy. NWS data and products form a national information database and infrastructure which can be used by other governmental agencies, the private sector, the public, and the global community.

### Brief National Weather Service History:

The National Weather Service has its beginnings in the early history of the United States. Weather has always been important to the citizenry of this country, and this was especially true during the 17th and 18th centuries.

The beginning of the National Weather Service we know today started on February 9th, 1870, when President Ulysses S. Grant signed a joint resolution of Congress authorizing the Secretary of War to establish a national weather service.

### ON THE WEB!

<http://www.weather.gov/corpuschristi>